

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 9 and 15-18 are in the case.

I. SPECIFICATION

The specification has been objected to as allegedly failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the subject matter appearing in claim 11. In response, the specification has been amended to include appropriate counterpart language. Withdrawal of this objection is now respectfully requested.

Customary headings have been inserted in the specification. No new matter is entered.

II. THE 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH, REJECTIONS

Claims 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite for the reasons detailed on pages 2 and 3 of the Action. In response, and without conceding to the merit of either of these rejections, claims 10 and 11 have been cancelled without prejudice. Withdrawal of the outstanding 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, rejections is accordingly respectfully requested.

III. THE ANTICIPATION REJECTIONS

Various claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by cited references. Without conceding to the merit of any of these rejections, the rejected claims have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing the subject matter of

those claims in a separate continuing application. Withdrawal of all of the outstanding anticipation rejections is accordingly respectfully requested.

IV. DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 1-9 and 15-18 stand rejected on obviousness-type double patenting grounds as allegedly constituting double patenting over claims 1-11 and 16-19 of co-pending application Serial No. 10/670,121. Since the present application is now directed to the subject matter of claim 14, indicated to be allowable, it is believed that the outstanding double patenting rejection has been rendered moot, since claim 14 is not rejected on obviousness-type double patenting grounds. Withdrawal of the outstanding double patenting rejection is accordingly respectfully requested.

V. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claim 14 is indicated to be allowable. In order to expedite this application to a favorable conclusion, the claims are now directed to the subject matter of claim 14. Allowance of the application is accordingly respectfully requested.

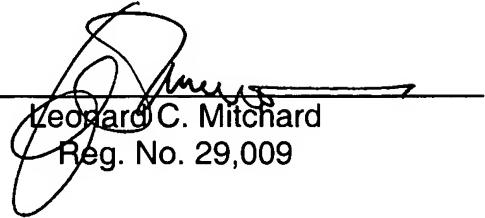
Favorable action on this application is awaited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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